

REGION 6 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TOPIC: Bayou Verdine Removal Action

DATE: March 4, 2013

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PURPOSE/ACTION NEEDED: For Information

DEADLINE DATE: No Action Needed

BACKGROUND:

Bayou Verdine is one of the areas in Calcasieu Estuary being addressed by EPA. After the Calcasieu Estuary Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study, EPA selected a non-time critical removal action to address contamination in Bayou Verdine. The removal action is being undertaken in accordance with a Federal Consent Decree signed by EPA and the responsible parties, Phillips 66 and Sasol North America, in 2011.

CURRENT STATUS:

The Bayou Verdine removal action commenced in September, 2012. The first phase of the removal action work is almost complete and consists of constructing a lined impoundment inside of the Phillips 66 refinery to accept the sediments from the Bayou. Starting in April 2013, sediments will be dredged from Bayou Verdine and placed in the impoundment, then dewatered and the clean water discharged back into Bayou Verdine. At the end of the removal action, the impoundment will have a soil cover placed over the top of the sediments after dewatering is complete. The action is scheduled to be complete by 2015.

ENVIRONMENTAL/PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS:

Bayou sediments have been impacted by industrial wastes such as Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and heavy metals. These chemicals are not present in concentrations that pose a threat to human health. Addressing the Bayou Verdine contamination will ensure protection of the health of people who harvest marine life in the area and protection of the sensitive estuarine environments.

TECHNICAL CONCERNS:

- None

REGULATORY/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Compliance with Consent Decree

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

- EPA and the Calcasieu Estuary Task Force are working together to keep the local community informed of the Bayou Verdine removal action progress.
- Calcasieu Estuary Task Force – Comprised of local environmental activists, local government representatives, academia, relevant federal agency representatives (FWS)
- EPA is publishing fact sheets at least 2x per year to keep the community informed on the progress of the removal action

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None